

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating the claims that would be allowable in the present application in the Office action dated January 27, 2006.

Status of the Claims:

Of the pending claims, Claims 21, 34, 41 and 44 have been amended. Claims 23, 33, 38, 40 and 51 have been canceled. Claims 52-59 have been added.

Remarks:

The Office Action dated January 27, 2006 rejected claims 21-22, 25, 31, 32 and 34-35, 37, 39, 43, 44 and 46-50 as being anticipated under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) by Jean-Marie Parel (EP Pat. No. 0 927 560 A1).

The Office Action also indicated that claims 23-24, 26, 29, 36, 38, 40-42 and 45 were allowable. The Applicant has amended independent claims 21 and 34 to include one of the respective allowable dependent claims. In doing so, the Applicants now believe that claims 21 and 34 are now in condition for allowance, pursuant to the Examiner's remarks. Further, the remaining dependent claims all now depend on independent claims that are in condition for allowance. Therefore, the dependant claims should also be in condition for allowance.

Additionally, the new claims incorporate therein subject matter that was indicated as allowable in the Office Action.

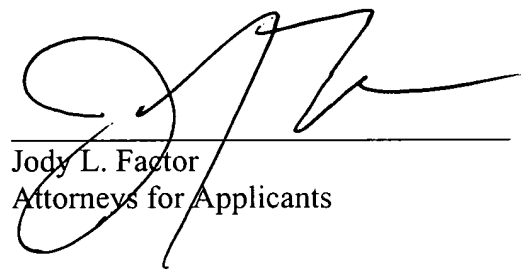
CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the Applicants respectfully request allowance of all of the pending Claims.

Should anything further be required, a telephone call to the undersigned, at (312) 226-1818, is respectfully invited.

Respectfully submitted,
FACTOR & LAKE, LTD.

Dated: May 31, 2006



Jody L. Factor
Attorneys for Applicants

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT DATED May 12, 2006 is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop - Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 31, 2006.



Yolanda Solis